## STATE OF THE STUDENTS

Monthly Newsletter



Picture above is our first Nationwide Chapter Leads Meeting through with the New Executive Board.

#### Inside the Issue

### **NEWSLETTER**

Introducing State of the Students

1st Monthly Newsletter.

# THE MONTLHY RECAP

Check out State of the Students
Monthly Update! Follow our
Instagram @stateofthestudents to
stay up to date daily.

# NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

Meet the new Executive Board at State of the Students.

# WELCOME TO OUR FIRST NEWSLETTER!

by Alejandra Lopez Nestor

To have a place where we can share the latest news for State of the Students we have decided to start our own newsletter including a monthly recap, news about our chapters, and a place where students across the nation can share why they are civically engaged. At State of the Students our mission is to bridge the gap between students & their elected officials and encourage youth participation in the civic process.



### THE MONTHLY RECAP

by Trisha Shenoy

Amidst a tumultuous year worldwide, with an unceasing pandemic and notable current events, State of the Students has been experiencing quite a few internal changes of its own. At the start of this school year, our organization welcomed dozens of new chapter leaders nationwide and a brand new executive board, our previous executive board adopting advisory roles. Given this change, we held our first nationwide all chapter leader meeting this past November to acquaint all the new recruits and work together to brain storm new projects for this upcoming year!

In addition, at the executive level, we are currently working on fostering partnerships with other civic-based organizations that can help us attain our mission statement: Serving to bridge the gap between students & their elected officials and encourage youth participation in the civic process.

At the state level, our chapters have wasted no time in getting down to business. This past month, the Texas Chapter held an incredibly informative "Get to Know Your Government" event and the Alabama Chapter held their first in-person meeting of the year! All of our chapters are hard at work so stayed tuned to see all the amazing content that the new year will bring!

## **NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD**

by Alejandra Lopez Nestor



Alejandra Lopez Nestor Co-Executive Director



Trisha Shenoy Co-Executive Director



Karina Haddad Development Director



Operations Director



Communications Director

State of the Students Executive Board is made up of five civically engaged students from around the country. Alejandra is from the Oregon Coast where she is passionate about striving for equity and bettering her community. Trisha is from Massachusetts where she helps lead the mock trial team and enjoys reading books. Karina is from California where she is the Vice President of Debate for her Speech and Debate Club and enjoys going on Boba runs. Lauren is from Texas where she found State of the Students through the Civics Unplugged Fellowship, she enjoys eating ice cream, swimming, and taking walks. Andres is from California where he is passionate about making civics equitably accessible to everyone.

## TEXAS: GET TO KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT

by Trisha Shenoy

On November 29th, the Texas chapter sat down with an incredible panel including Dr. Audrey Young a member of the State Board of Education and Judge Ken Wise from District 14 Court of Appeals discussing the parallels between the education and legal systems to inquiring about the effectiveness of technology as a tool for civic engagement. Attendees hopefully received a comprehensive understanding of the intersections between government and other fields in the political realm. They ended the event off with the question that addresses the core of who we are as an organization: "Why should students care about government?". Stay tuned for the full event recording on the Texas Chapter Instagram (@Txstateofthestudents) or on our YouTube (State of the Students)!

### CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: ALABAMA VISITS THE CAPITOL

by Alejandra Lopez Nestor

The Alabama Chapter with Co-Leaders Jeremiah, Amaria, and Jenny visited the Alabama Capitol in Montgomery. They were able to speak with various politicians, tour the building, and learn more about Alabama's State Government. Follow the Alabama Chapter Instagram to stay up to date. (@Alstateofthestudents)

